

Prior to assuming the top post at Widener, Dr. Harris recently served as president of Defiance College in Ohio. With Dr. Harris at the helm, Defiance's enrollment grew to its highest level in three decades, had the best 4-year graduation rate in the school's history, and rose out of severe financial difficulties. Perhaps most importantly, Dr. Harris improved the lives of his student by teaching them the value of community service and responsible citizenship. The service-learning program he instituted continues to positively impact the surrounding community and the college's academic program. The success of this program ranked Dr. Harris in the Sir John Templeton Foundation's prestigious Honor Roll as one of the top 50 Character Building Presidents in America.

I look forward to watching Widener and the three communities it serves—Chester, PA, Harrisburg, PA, and Wilmington, DE, achieve new heights and benefit from Dr. Harris' experience and leadership. Widener and Dr. Harris stand as shining examples that the greatest service one can provide is to educate another. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking Dr. Harris for his contributions to our education system and wish him well in his new endeavor.

**MERCY HIGH SCHOOL OF SAN FRANCISCO CELEBRATES A HALF CENTURY OF SERVICE**

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mercy High School of San Francisco, located in my congressional district, on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of its founding. Since its inception in 1952, this extraordinary educational institution has dedicated itself to providing the finest education for young women in the Bay area.

Mr. Speaker, Mercy High School was founded half a century ago by the Sisters of Mercy, at the request of the San Francisco Archdiocese, in order to create a high school for girls in the growing Sunset, Lakeside, and Park Merced neighborhoods of San Francisco, as well as in communities in northern San Mateo County.

Mercy High School has come a long way since it first opened its doors to 199 students in 1952. When Mercy High School was first founded, the school consisted of one partially finished building and was staffed by six Sisters of Mercy and one lay person. Today the school can boast of a student body of 600 students, and they are educated on a campus of six and half acres located in the heart of San Francisco's Sunset District. The meticulously maintained campus includes 22 classrooms, a campus ministry, three science laboratories, a chapel, a 10,000-volume library, two computer labs, and studios for the fine and performing arts. Additionally, the school recently completed the Catherine McAuley Pavilion—a magnificent structure containing state-of-the-art athletic facilities and an outstanding art gallery.

Mr. Speaker, Catherine McAuley founded the Sisters of Mercy, a religious order, in Dublin, Ireland in 1831. She was an extraordinary

woman who was a socialite turned social worker, a lady of fashion who lived among the poor, a woman of wealth who had no money, and a dedicated activist who learned the discipline of sanctity. Catherine McAuley and her Sisters of Mercy brought aid and comfort to the impoverished of Dublin. Within ten years of its foundation, the Sisters of Mercy had expanded to aid people in other cities in Ireland and in England. In 1843, the first mission was started in the United States, and in 1854, the Sisters of Mercy came to San Francisco. In 1990, in completion of one stage of the process by which the Catholic Church defines sainthood, Pope John Paul II declared Catherine McAuley Venerable.

Since its foundation, Mercy High School in San Francisco has dedicated itself to its mission of educating young women to be leaders who make a difference in their church and in their world. The school's fine arts program is one of the most diverse in the entire Bay Area, and the athletic and speech programs have received state level recognition as well. Additionally, Mercy High School's student government has received the Medalist Award, the highest award given by the California Association of Student Councils.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted and honored to pay tribute to this outstanding educational institution, and I invite all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mercy High School on half century of service to the Archdiocese of San Francisco, the Bay Area, and our nation.

**COMMEMORATION OF  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, "We must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill," the Puritan preacher John Winthrop proclaimed, as he and his followers sailed for America and freedom. "The eyes of all people are upon us." And so they have remained for nearly four centuries. Many have looked to us in awe, inspired by a nation rooted in liberty. Others have hated the ideal we embody, and wished us ill. But none can remove us from their gaze.

Today, America's economic prosperity, military power, and technological advancement are without peer. Our daily comforts and conveniences exceed those available to most of the six billion people who inhabit the earth. But the ease of our lives does not render us soft, or reluctant to retaliate when attacked. A year ago, all the world watched in horror as a small gang of wicked men took three thousand innocent lives in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Since the moment the first airplane struck the first tower, Americans have shown, both on the battlefield and at home, the strength of our spirit, the mettle of our souls, and the force of our arms. From the firefighters climbing to their deaths, to the airline passengers who battled back, to the precious West Virginia sons and daughters who gave their lives in Afghanistan, the world has witnessed acts of American selflessness and bravery that rival the most revered in the annals of human history.

Just as Winthrop defined America's place in the world, he described how we must live to maintain it. "We must delight in each other," he instructed. "Make others' conditions our own; rejoice together; mourn together; labor and suffer together." Our whole nation suffered the same grievous wound on September 11. Those who delivered the blow hoped it would inaugurate our destruction. Instead, they inspired America's return to the community values and mutual commitment upon which our country was built.

The attacks, the ongoing war, and the continuing threats spur us to embrace again our founding ideas: that all men and women are created equal; that America's destiny is the world's destiny—to secure life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that we cannot allow the centuries-old, world-wide fight for freedom to falter. This recollection of our original rights and responsibilities is a fitting tribute, is an apt memorial, to the lives that were lost and devastated on that sad September day.

**IN HONOR OF LOUISE WILSON  
LEWIS**

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Louise Wilson Lewis, whose commitment to Glendale Memorial Hospital over the last forty years has exemplified the spirit of selfless volunteerism that has been so integral to our community.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Mrs. Lewis's first involvement with Glendale Memorial Hospital came at the age of sixteen, when she volunteered as a candy striper for the hospital. A self-described "professional volunteer," she served in almost every volunteer position in the hospital since beginning there four decades ago.

Mrs. Lewis currently serves on the Glendale Memorial Health Foundation Board of Directors, where she is helping to raise \$25 million for an expansion of the Hospital. She is also an active member of St. Francis Episcopal Church and works with Las Candelas, an organization which assists emotionally disturbed children.

In June of 2001, Louise Lewis was diagnosed with cancer, and began to receive treatment from the hospital she served for so long. For over a year, she battled the disease, which, thanks to cutting-edge treatments and Mrs. Lewis's fighting spirit, has now gone into remission. Mrs. Lewis's outlook on her disease is a statement of her courage: "Cancer is so limited, and there is so much it cannot do to a being. It cannot undermine integrity, or invade the soul, or conquer the spirit."

And it has not. She has continued her volunteer efforts with Glendale Memorial Hospital and in March, she and her husband Tim will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Lewis's commitment to Glendale Memorial Hospital and the various charitable causes she supports makes her worthy of recognition, but her sheer determination to win her battle with cancer makes her an inspiration to us all. I ask all Members of Congress to join me in saluting Louise Wilson Lewis, whose strength of will and selfless devotion to her community exemplify the best in all of us.